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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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NLM Funds Bioethics Information

As research advances the frontiers of medical science, health professionals are increasingly faced with moral dilemmas. Is the physician obligated to save the life of a severely deformed infant? Should brain surgery be used as a method for controlling violent behavior? What are the ethical implications of trying to produce human life in the laboratory?

To help assemble and disseminate a store of information about these and other questions dealing with the ethics of biomedicine (termed "bioethics" by those working in the new field), the National Library of Medicine has awarded a three-year grant totaling $280,000 to the Joseph and Rose Kennedy Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and Bioethics at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

Under the grant, the Kennedy Institute will publish three annual bibliographies on bioethics. The first bibliography is scheduled for publication in early 1975. By the third year of the project all entries will be stored on computer tape, and automated demand searches on any bioethical topic will become possible. In addition, the Institute staff will seek to collaborate with major academic libraries and research centers in developing a worldwide information network in the field of bioethics.

Potential users of the network's services are governmental bodies involved in drafting legislation, scholars working on specific problems in bioethics, and committees involved in drafting guidelines to protect human subjects in biomedical research.

New Regents Appointed

On March 8, following Senate confirmation, President Nixon appointed Dr. Joseph F. Volker, President of the University of Alabama, and Dr. Ethel Weinberg, Associate Dean of the Medical College of Pennsylvania, to be members of the NLM Board of Regents. The Board, which meets three times a year, advises the Secretary and the Director of the Library on policy matters.

Joseph F. Volker, D.D.S., Ph.D., has had a unique career as an educator in dentistry and medical administration. After receiving his dental degree from Indiana University (1936) and his Ph.D. as a Carnegie Fellow in Dentistry from the University of Rochester (1941), Dr. Volker has held a series of teaching and administrative positions at the University of Rochester, Tufts University, and the University of Alabama. He was appointed President of the University of Alabama (Birmingham) in 1969. Dr. Volker is a member of numerous professional health societies, a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine, and he has been decorated by the governments of Czechoslovakia and Thailand.

Ethel Weinberg, M.D., educator and medical administrator, received her B.A. from the University of Delaware (1956) and M.D. from Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia (1961). After serving her internship at Hahnemann Medical College Hospital, Dr. Weinberg went into private practice and later served as House Physician at West Park Hospital and then as Medical Administration Liaison Officer at the same institution. Since 1967, when she was appointed Assistant to the Dean, Dr. Weinberg has been associated with the Medical College of Pennsylvania. In 1970 she was named Associate Dean. Dr. Weinberg is the author of numerous medical articles, a diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners, a member of several medical societies, and Chairman Elect of the Northeast Area Group on Medical Education of the AAMC.

U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Public Health Service
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Satellite Demonstration Holds New Promise

On February 23, 1974 a small unimposing satellite communication earth station beamed a signal at ANIK (Eskimo for "brother"), the Canadian Domestic Satellite some 22,000 miles above the earth, in an important demonstration for the biomedical community and the State of Alaska. The earth station was made available by NLM's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications.

Participating in the demonstration were Senator Stevens of Alaska, Dr. Al Horley, Director of Telecommunications Policy, DHEW, and representatives of the Governor of Alaska, the U.S. Air Force, Radio Corporation of America—Alaska Communications, DHEW, the Lister Hill Center, and the Indian Health Service.

The demonstration proved that small, inexpensive (about $15,000 each) earth stations can operate through a domestic satellite, not interfere with other users, and not demand excessive power and bandwidth from the satellite. These advantages open the door for the Indian Health Service (IHS) to provide medical communication at sufficiently low cost to make it practical for the 200 villages in Alaska. Initial funding for such an operational network has been provided by the Indian Health Service.

It was apparent from the demonstration that satellite communication via these inexpensive ground terminals has much broader potential than just for medical purposes. It makes possible a way to provide our largest state with a public telephone network, an objective which RCA Alaska Communications (Alascom) has been attempting to accomplish for three years. Should Alascom provide earth stations and adopt satellite communication as the principal mode for intrastate telephone traffic, the IHS would have only to lease a dedicated channel to meet its medical needs.

This is a major breakthrough in that it would allow earth stations located anywhere in Alaska to communicate for only the monthly charge of a single channel. Thus, up to 100 community health aides would be able to use a single channel for consultation, education, and even data transmission for less than $3,000 per month—far less than the cost of conventional telecommunications.

MEDLINE Data Base Changed

In preparation for the MEDLARS II system to be implemented later this year, the MEDLINE file of journal article references has been converted to include all MEDLARS citations for the two-year period beginning January 1972 plus the current year. Thus MEDLINE now provides access to articles in over 2,200 journals. Previously, MEDLINE contained references to about 1,000 journals for three years plus the current year. The new MEDLINE file contains about the same number of citations—some 500,000. The librarian at your MEDLINE Center has complete details on the data base changeover.

NLM Request for Gaps Produces Results

In the January *NLM News* the Library published a list of 39 titles with 62 issues which represented gaps in our collection, and asked readers to make available to us any extra copies they might have.

The returns on this first listing of gaps were substantially better than we had expected. We received 30 usable issues or a return of 48 percent, and we expect that a few more issues will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. We plan to continue to publish selected lists of our gaps—the third such listing is below. NLM hopes that readers will continue to respond as promptly and effectively as they have for the first listing.

The staff of the National Library of Medicine wishes to thank *NLM News* readers for their cooperation. We believe that such cooperation will

have a significant effect in improving the backup services of NLM.

This month's gaps are listed below. If you can furnish any of these items, please address them to:

Technical Services Division—GAPS
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Abstracts on Criminology and Penology 10:1; 11:5-6.
Acta Universitatis Carolinae; Biologica 1968; 1-4,6.
Advances in Fertility Control 3-7, 1968-1972.
Adverse Drug Reaction Bulletin 1963-70: 1-25.
Aldrichimica Acta 1-4; 5:4- .
Anales de la Real Academin de Medicine y Cirugia Valladolid 1969-1972.
Australian Nurses Journal 1, 1971/72.
Dental Clinics of North America 1964, March.
International Journal of the Addictions 1-2.
JOGN Nursing 1:4, 1972.
Journal for the Study of Consciousness 1:2, 1968.
Journal of Alcohol & Drug Education 12:1, 1966; 17:3, 1972; 18:1,2, 1973.
Journal Alcoholism 5:1, 1970; 7:4, 1972.
Journal of Allied Health 2:1, 1973.
Journal of Child Psychotherapy 2:1, 4, 1968/69.
Journal of Cross Cultural Psychology 3:4, 1972.
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology 11, 1973.
Journal of Extra-Corporeal Technology 4:3, 1972.
Journal of Foot Surgery 10, 1971.
Journal of Forensic Sciences 13, 1968; 17, 1972; 18, 1973.
Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry 4, 1971; 5:2, 1972.
Journal of Hospital Dental Practice 1:2-4, 1967.
Journal of Indiana Dental Association 42:6, 1963.
Journal of Psychoanalysis in Groups 2:1,3, 1968.
Journal of Psychology 83: pt. 2, 1973.
Journal of Public Health Dentistry 29, 1969.
Journal of Rehabilitation of the Deaf 2:1,2, 1968.
Journal of Research in Crime & Delinquency 3:1, 1966; 5:1, 1968.
Journal of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation 6: Jan.-Feb., 1972.
Program and Abstracts, Annual Meeting; American Pediatric Society (Please supply issues or bibliographic information if published as part of another title) 1967-1969, 1971.
Program and Abstracts; Annual Meeting; Society of Pediatric Research (Please supply issues or bibliographic information if published as part of another title) 38, 39, 41.
Psychonomic Bulletin 1967.

Publication Notes

Read carefully the Publications Supplement to the February-March issue of the *News* for information on NLM publications. The Supplement contains answers to frequently asked questions about ordering publications from the Government Printing Office, up-to-date ordering information on both GPO and NTIS publications, and a revised claim form. Additional copies of the Supplement are available on request from NLM's Office of Inquiries. (Please enclose a self-addressed, gummed label with your request.)

Cumulated Index Medicus, 1973: Although originally scheduled for shipment to advance-order customers in April (*News,* October 1973), it now appears that sets will not be shipped until May. Advance orders are still being accepted by the Superintendent of Documents on the special order forms sent to *News* readers.

NLM Current Catalog, Monthly Listing, December 1973: As reported in the December 1973 *News,* this will be the last monthly issue published. The latest word we have received is that this issue will not be sent to subscribers until late April, with all refunds for 1974 subscriptions processed after this mailing.

CAIM and *CuBE:* The Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, has announced prices for the following annual cumulations scheduled to appear later this spring. For fastest service, please make out separate orders for each publication title requested, although the orders may be sent together with payment in one sum.

Cumulated Abridged Index Medicus, 1973. Price: $19.80 ($24.75 foreign) GPO Cat. No. HE 20.3612/2-2:4.

Current Bibliography of Epidemiology, 1973 Annual Cumulation. Price: $20.80 ($26.00 foreign) GPO Cat. No. HE 20.3617/2:5.

TIP Literature Searches

The bibliographies below represent a complete and corrected listing of 1973 searches prepared for publication by the NLM Toxicology Information Program's Toxicology Information Response Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The searches are available in paper copy at the prices quoted (or in microfiche for $1.45) from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22151. Include identifying number, full title, and payment with your order.

ORNL/TIRC-73-1 *Effect of Insecticides on Enzyme Activity* (457 references), price: $8.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-2 *Toxicity of Tris (2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate and Tris (2,3-Dichloropropyl) Phosphate* (18 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-3 *Toxicity of Zinc Phosphorodithioates* (19 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-4 *Trace Element Profile on Human Blood* (117 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-5 *Toxic Effects of Bee and Wasp Venoms* (173 references), price: $.5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-6 *Diseases and Toxicologic Phenomena in Psittacine Birds* (55 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-7 *Toxicology and Environmental Effects of Polychlorinated Terphenyls* (32 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-8 *Toxicology of Eugenol* (55 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-9 *Toxicity of Potatoes* (466 references), price: $7.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-10 *Toxicity of dl-Mandelic Acid in Animals* (28 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-11 *Toxicity and Metabolism of BHT (2,1-Di-tert-Butyl Hydroxytoluene)* (180 references), price: $7:00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-12 *Toxicity and Metabolism of BHA (2 and 3-tert-Butyl-4 Hydroxyanisole)* (81 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-13 *Biological Effects of Saccharin* (119 references) price: $6.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-14 *Toxicity and Adverse Effects of RDX* [cyclonite] (20 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-15 *Toxicity and Adverse Effects of Trinitrotoluene (TNT)* (71 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-16 *Toxicity and Adverse Effects of Ammonium Picrate* (18 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-17 *Toxicity, Adverse Effects, and Environmental Control of Ordnance and Explosive Compounds* (71 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-18 *Diagnosis, Treatment and Occurrences of Radionuclide Contamination of Wounds* (164 references), price: $5.00.

ORNL/TIRC-73-19 *Toxicity of Palladium, Platinum, and Their Compounds* (98 references), price: $6.00.

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